

Message Text

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12
ACTION NEA-10

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UNCLAS NEW DELHI 12013

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR MNUC TECH IN US
SUBJECT: ARTICLE FROM THE HINDU

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION NEW DELHI FROM MADRAS AUG 16 IS REPEATED

QUOTE

MADRAS 1458

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, MNUC, TECH, IN, US
SUBJECT: ARTICLE FROM THE HINDU

THERE IS QUOTED BELOW IN ITS ENTIRELY AN EDITORIAL
ENTITLED "MR. BHUTTO'S REPROCESSING PLANT," WHICH
APPEARED IN THE HINDU OF AUGUST 16.

QUOTE:

ARE DR. HENRY KISSINGER'S WELL-PUBLICISED EFFORTS TO
SCOTCH PAKISTAN'S DEAL WITH FRANCE FOR A SUPPLY OF
A NUCLEAR FUEL PROCESSING PLANT JUST A CHARADE, TO
BOLSTER PRESIDENT FORD'S ELECTORAL FORTUNES OR TO
PREPARE THE GROUND FOR GIVING PAKISTAN THE BOMBERS
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IT WANTS? ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS (NOT CONTRADICTED

SO FAR) QUOTING OFFICIAL SOURCES, HE FLIES TO PAKISTAN STANDS TO LOSE ALL FURTHER AMERICAN MILITARY AND ECONOMIC AID . THIS "BIG STICK" APPROACH APPARENTLY DID NOT IMPRESS MR. BHUTTO, WHEREUPON DR. KISSINGER SEEMS TO HAVE SWITCHED OVER TO A "CARROT APPROACH" AND IS REPORTED TO HAVE OFFERED TO GIVE MR. BHUTTO THE A-7 MEDIUM BOMBERS HE HAS BEEN SEEKING FROM WASHINGTON-- HE SEEMS TO WANT ABOUT A HUNDRED OF THEM-- IF ONLY HE WOULD GIVE UP THE REPROCESSING PLANT. MR. BHUTTO WAS STILL NOT IMPRESSED,PROBABLY FEELING THAT HE IS BOUND TO GET HIS AMERICAN AID ANYHOW, REPROCESSING PLANT OR NO REPROCESSING PLANT. DR. KISSINGER THEN FLIES TO PARIS AND LETS IT BE WIDELY KNOWN THAT HE ASKED THE FRENCH PREMIER, MR. CHIRAC, NOT TO GIVE PAKISTAN THE REPROCESSING PLANT IN THE INTERESTS OF PREVENTING NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION. SURELY, THE U.S. SECRETARY COULD NOT HAVE EXPECTED FRANCE, OR ANY GREAT POWER FOR THAT MATTER, TO REVERSE A DECISION IT MUST HAVE TAKEN AFTER DUE CONSIDERATION OF ALL THE PROS AND CONS JUST FOR HIS ASKING, AND PARTICULARLY WHEN THE ASKING HAS BEEN DONE IN A BLARE OF PUBLICITY. NOT SURPRISINGLY, MR. CHIRAC IS REPORTED TO HAVE TOLD DR. KISSINGER TO MIND HIS OWN BUSINESS.

"WHY MR. BHUTTO WANTS A REPROCESSING PLANT AT THE PRESENT INFANT STAGE OF HIS COUNTRY'S NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT IS NOT CLEAR. PAKISTAN HAS ONLY ONE NUCLEAR REACTOR (IN KARACHI), SET UP BY CANADA SEVEN YEARS AGO, AND CANNOT IN THE NEAR FUTURE HAVE FOR REPROCESSING ANY QUANTITY OF NUCLEAR FUEL WORTH THE NAME. BUT PAKISTAN HAS SOME DEPOSITS OF URANIUM AND THERE ARE REPORTS THAT IT MAY RECEIVE CHINESE HELP FOR ITS ATOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME. THOUGH MR. BHUTTO IS NOW SAYING PAKISTAN HAS NO INTENTION OF MAKING THEBOMB, HE USED TO BE A STRONG ADVOCATE OF NUCLEAR ARMAMENT FOR PAKISTAN THE PAST. FOR INSTANCE, WHEN HE WAS FOREIGN MINISTER HE DECLARED, "WE WILL PRODUCE AN ATOM BOMB EVEN IF WE HAVE TO EAT GRASS." IT IS POSSIBLE MR. BHUTTO CAN STILL BE "PERSUADED" TO GIVE UP THE REPROCESSING PLANT HE HAS SET HIS HEART ON. DR. KISSINGER HAS SAID THAT THE DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE CONTINUED" IN THE WEEKS AND MONTHS AHEAD," BUT "WITHOUT BLACKMAIL OR PRESSURE." AND UNCLASSIFIED

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CANADA HAS THREATENED TO STOP ALL FURTHER HELP TO THE KARACHI REACTOR IF PAKISTAN ACQUIRES A REPROCESSING PLANT . BE THAT AS IT MAY, THE U.S. AND OTHER NUCLEAR POWERS' GREAT CONCERN OVER NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION WOULD CARRY GREATER CONVICTION WITH THE NON-NUCLEAR NATIONS IF THEY WOULD PUT A STOP TO THEIR OWN NUCLEAR ARMS RACE AND BEGIN TO DISMANTLE THEIR EXISTING ARSENALS. UNQUOTE. SIGNED MCCASKIL

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